

## Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SNM-05 HA-05 AID-05 SSO-00 /030 W  
-----022591 142331Z /73

O R 152235Z APR 78  
FM AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7694  
INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA  
AMEMBASSY MEXICO  
AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE  
DEA HDQS WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAN SALVADOR 1802

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: SNAR, SHUM, PORS, EAID, ES  
SUBJECT: DEA ADVANCED INTERNATIONAL DRUG ENFORCEMENT SCHOOL  
NO. 27

REF: (A) STATE 094657, (B) SAN SALVADOR 1522, (C) SAN SALVADOR 1506

1. FOLLOWING IS RESPONSE TO ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REQUESTED IN  
REFTEL A:

A. COL. ROBERTO FABIO LORENZANA'S MILITARY CAREER IS AS FOLLOWS:

1. 1951-55 - CADET, EL SALVADOR MILITARY ACADEMY
2. 1958 - PROMOTED TO 1ST LT. AND ASSIGNED TO MILITARY  
ACADEMY AS INSTRUCTOR (1963 PROMOTED TO CAPTAIN)
3. 1966 - ASSIGNED TO THE PUBLIC RELATIONS DEPARTMENT OF  
THE MINISTRY OF DEFENSE
4. 1966 - COMMANDING OFFICER OF THE MEDICAL COMPANY AT SAN  
SALVADOR
5. JAN. 1967 - ADJUTANT FOR THE TERRITORIAL SERVICE  
AT ZACATEPEC, EL SALVADOR (PUBLIC SERVICE AND EMERGENCY  
MILITARY ASSISTANCE)
6. JUNE 1967 - COMMANDING OFFICER OF 2ND RIFLE COMPANY OF THE  
SECURITY DETACHEMENT, EL SALVADOR AIR FORCE.

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7. JAN. 1968 - STAFF OFFICER OF 1ST BATTALION, 1ST BRIGADE
8. NOV. 1968 - COORDINATOR OF LA PAZ REGIMENT AS ADJUTANT
9. DEC. 1968 - MILITARY COLLABORATOR, DEPARTMENT II, ARMED  
FORCES GENERAL STAFF (RESPONSIBLE FOR COMBAT AND MILITARY  
BORDER-TYPE INTELLIGENCE GATHERING). PROMOTED TO MAJOR.
10. OCT. 1969 - SECTION 4, 1ST INFANTRY BRIGADE IN CHARGE OF  
LOGISTICS.

11. JAN. 1970 - SECTION 2/3, INFANTRY BRIGADE, ASSIGNED TO COMAT AND MILITARY INTELLIGENCE OPERATIONS AT HONDURAN BORDER.

12. OCT. 1970-MILITARY COLLABORATOR ASSIGNED TO DEPARTMENT I (CIVIC ACTION - EMERGENCY RELIEF).

13. JUNE 1972 - SECTION 2/3 OF RECRUITMENT TRAINING AT SAN SALVADOR MILITARY ACADEMY

14. NOV. 1972 - CHIEF OF INSTRUCTION OF THE NATIONAL GUARD SCHOOL

15. DEC. 1972 - PROMOTED TO LT. COL.

16. JULY 1973 - EXECUTIVE OFFICER AT BORDER OUTPOST II AT SENSUNTEPEQUE, EL ALVADOR (MILITARY BORDER OUTPOST)

17. NOV. 1973 - EXECUTIVE OFFICER MILITARY DETACHMENT VI, SAN VICENTE, EL SALVADOR

18. AUG. 1974 - EXECUTIVE OFFICER MILITARY DETACHMENT V, SAN VICENTE, EL SALVADOR.

19. JUNE 1975 - EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF CAVALRY REGIMENT

20. SEPT. 1975 - SECTION CHIEF OF DIVISION IV, ARMED FORCES GENERAL STAFF ASSIGNED TO LOGISTICS. PROMOTED TO FOLONEL IN DEC. 1976.

21. JULY 1977 - SECTION CHIEF DIVISION II, ARMED FORCES GENERAL STAFF ASSIGNED TO INTELLIGENCE (COMBAT AND MILITARY BORDER INTELLIGENCE TYPE INFORMATION).

22. JAN. 1978 - SECTION III OF THE NATIONAL POLICE, ASSIGNED TO SUPERVISE NARCOTICS SECTION, PATROL VEHICLE AND ADMINISTRATOR OF TRAINING FOR THE NATIONAL POLICE ACADEMY.

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B. PRIOR TO JAN. 1978, LORENZANA HADNOT BEEN ASSIGNED TO THE NATIONAL POLICE. HIS BRIEF ASSIGNMENT WITH THE NATIONAL GUARD AS IN A TRAINING CAPACITY. COL. LORENZANA ESTIMATES THAT HE HAS SPENT APPROXIMATELY SIX YEARS OF HIS CAREER IN THE TRAINING FIELD WHICH INCLUDED NARCOTICS TRAINING FOR MILITARY PERSONNEL, EITHER WITH THE MILITARY ACADEMY OR IN HIS YEARS AS EXECUTIVE OFFICER FOR THE DIFFERENT MILITARY SECTIONS.

C. WITH RESPECT TO ITEM 21, SECTION CHIEF OF DIVISION II, AFGS, ASSIGNED TO MILITARY INTELLIGENCE, COL. LORENZANA'S DUTIES DID NOT COVER ANY INTERNAL POLITICAL REPORTING DUTIES. HIS TENURE WAS FOR APPROXIMATELY ONE-HALF YEAR AND WAS DEVOTAD PRIMARILY TO MILITARY BORDER INTELLIGENCE. THE MISSION HAS NO RECORD INDICATING THAT COL. LORENZANA'S ATTITUDES OR ACTIVITIES DURING HIS MILITARY CAREER HAS ADVERSELY AFFECTED HUMAN RIGHTS. ON THE CONTRARY, LORENZANA IS VIEWED BY EMBASSY OFFICERS WHO KNOW HIM AS ONE OF THE MORE LIBERAL AND FORWARD-THINKING MEMBERS OF THE SALVADORAN MILITARY OFFICER CORP. HE HAS A REALISTIC VIEW OF THE SEVERE SOCIAL PROBLEMS FACING EL SALVADOR AND STRONGLY FEELS THAT SOMETHING MUST BE DONE TO BETTER THE LOT OF THE POORER CLASS. SOON AFTER ASSUMING HIS PRESENT DUTIES

IN THE NATIONAL POLICE, LORENZANO EXPRESSED TO DATT THAT ONE OF THIS FIRST PRIORITIES WAS TO CLEAN UP CORRUPTION IN THE POLICE DEPARTMENT AND TO IMPRTVE THE IMAGE OF THE NATIONAL POLICE BY INCREASING THEIR PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS AND ACTIONS THROUGH PROPER TRAINING. HIS EFFORTS IN THIS DIRECTION HAVE LED SOME EMBASSY OFFICERS TO LABEL HIM AS "THE DON QUIXOTE OF THE NATIONAL POLICE".

D. THE EL SALVADOR NATIONAL POLICE IS HEADED BY A DIRECTOR AND SUBDIRECTOR. THESE TWO OFFICERS ADMINISTER FIVE DIVISIONS AND THE TRAINING SECTION. AS THE HIGHEST-RANKING OFFICER OF THESE FIVE DIVISIONS AND THE THIRD-RANKING OFFICER IN THE NATIONAL POLICE, COL. LORENZANA IS THE HEAD OF DIVISION III (OPERATIONS) AND AS SUCH EXERCIESES CERTAIN ADMINISTRATIVE CONTROL  
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OVER THE OTHER FOUR DIVISIONS INCLUDING THE CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION SECTION (SIC), WHICH IS HEADED BY ITS OWN DIRECTOR. HOWEVER, COL. LORENZANA, AS DESCRIBED IN SAN SALVADOR 1506, ALSO HAS SPECIFIC SECTIONS ASSIGNED TO HIM. THESE ARE SECTIONS II, RADIO PATROL CARS, WHICH IS A MINOR OPERATION, SINCE EL SALVADOR HAS A SEPARATE AND EXTENSIVE TRANSIT DEPARTMENT, AND SECTION V, WHICH IS THE NARCOTIC ENFORCEMENT SECTION. IN ADDITION AND PRIMARILY, COL. LORENZANA HAS BEEN DELEGATED THE COORDINATION OF ALL INSTRUCTION OF THE NATIONAL POLICE ACADEMY, WHICH ALSO HAS ITS OWN DIRECTOR. COL. LORENZANA, AS HEAD OF PATROL VEHICLES ASSIGNED TO THE NATIONAL POLICE, THE NARCOTICS SECTION AND THE TRAINING SECTION WOULD HAVE NO SPECIFIC RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE INVESTIGATION OR SUPPRESSION OF POLITICAL ACTIVITIES OF GOES OPPONENTS OR IN VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS.

2. ON BASIS OF FOREGOING, EMBASSY STRONGLY BELIEVES LORENZANA'S NOMINATION CAN BE APPROVED WITHOUT ANY DETRIMENT TO OUR POSITION ON HUMAN RIGHTS. ADDITIONALLY, SUCH APPROVAL WOULD INTER ALIA STRENGTHEN POSITION OF AN OFFICER WHO LOOKS LIKE A POSITIVE FORCE FOR THE FUTURE IN TERMS OF IMPROVING CHARACTER AND QUALITY OF NATIONAL POLICE. FINALLY, IT IS VERY PERTINENT TO CONSIDER THAT WITHDRAWAL NOW OF THIS INVITATION CAN ONLY BE EFFECTED AT DISPROPORTIONATE COST TO ESSENTIAL ASPECTS OF OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH NATIONAL POLICE AND IN PARTICULAR TO OUR HOPES FOR NARCOTS COOPERATION IN THE FUTURE.  
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## Message Attributes

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